



**Dogs are a positive addition
to the city because they:**

- Improve security
- Encourage an active lifestyle
- Contribute to a bustling and vibrant downtown

In addition, pet companionship is proven to improve both physical and mental health for humans.

Please remember that regardless of whether a dog is in an off-leash area, a park, or other public area, if it defecates on public property the owner/handler of the dog must immediately remove the waste and dispose of it in a trash receptacle.

This requirement applies at all times.



***Laws regarding pets can be found under
Chapter 6 of the City Code***

Access the City Code through the city's website at www.roanokeva.gov (use the "Government" drop-down menu) or at city library branches



Dog Owner's Guide
to enjoying public areas in
the City of Roanoke with
your best friend



www.roanokeva.gov

Public Areas

To promote and enhance the enjoyment of public areas within the City of Roanoke by all residents, the City has adopted several rules that apply to dog owners and their dogs in public areas, including:

- Dogs must be legally licensed, vaccinated, and wear current tags.
- All dogs must be on a leash, unless they are in a dog park.
- Dog owners/handlers must immediately pick up and dispose of, in trash receptacles, all dog feces.
- Owners and dog handlers must keep their dog(s) in view, under voice supervision, and in control at all times.
- Dogs are not allowed to bark incessantly or otherwise act in a way that is likely to annoy others or disturb the peace.
- Aggressive dogs posing a threat to human beings or other dogs are not allowed at any time.



- Any incident in which your dog bites a person or attacks another animal must be immediately reported to the Roanoke Police Department by calling 911, and parties involved must wait for an officer to respond,

except in the cases where immediate medical care is needed for the person bitten.

- Owners/handlers are legally responsible for their dog(s) and any injury or damage to facilities caused by them.
- Except for service dogs or therapy dogs, dogs are not allowed to enter any public hall, restaurant, outdoor dining area, ice cream parlor, or the public market building at any time, or any office or store during the time that such office or store is open for public business, whether or not the dog is muzzled or on leash, or otherwise under the immediate control of such owner.

Public Parks

- Dogs are welcome in public parks but are to be kept secured by a leash unless in a designated dog park.
- Dogs are not permitted in certain areas as marked by official City signage, including athletic fields, playgrounds, and school grounds.
- Dog owners/handlers must clean up and properly dispose of any waste left by their dog. Disposable bags are available at “Mutt Mitt” stations for immediate cleanup and disposal at dispenser locations within the park.

Dog Park

The City’s off-leash dog park in Highland Park has enjoyed a tremendous amount of success. Amenities include a large dog area as well as a small dog area, fresh water bowls, decorative fire hydrants, benches, and mutt-mitt stations so you can easily

clean up after Fido. Dog park rules include the following:

- Aggressive dogs are not welcome; dogs must be removed at the first sign of aggression.
- Female dogs in season are prohibited.
- Only two dogs per owner are permitted at a time.
- Please fill in any holes your pet digs.
- Owners are responsible and assume all risks associated with the use of this park and for the actions of their dogs.
- All dogs must be currently licensed, vaccinated, and properly identified.
- Puppies under four months of age are not permitted.
- Animals other than dogs are not permitted.
- Children under 16 years of age may not be in the dog park unless accompanied by an adult.
- Food, treats, beverages, strollers, bikes or toys are not permitted.
- All dogs must be leashed upon entering and exiting this area.

